

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2203, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-198) on the resolution (H. Res. 194) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2203) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 196) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 196

Resolved, That the following Members be, and they are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Mr. Redmond.

Committee on National Security: Mr. Redmond.

Committee on Small Business: Mr. Pitts.
Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Mr. Redmond.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

URGING MEMBERS TO VOTE AGAINST THE RULE ON THE AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS BILL

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise as the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations, which means I am the lead Democrat, and to protest the action of the Committee on Rules last night in putting a tourniquet on the debate that was to have occurred on our bill.

Yesterday we had that bill on the floor, and generally it comes to the floor under an open rule. I might remind the membership that agriculture is America's most important industry. It provides our most positive balance-of-trade figures, and is an exceedingly important bill to our farmers, our food processors, our people involved in the fiber industry, the forestry industry, the fuel industry. This is not an unimportant bill.

Yet, because of anger for other reasons, for other reasons, because Mem-

bers like the gentlewoman from California [Ms. PELOSI], the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. YATES], and myself, the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR], as ranking members of our respective committees were summarily blocked in prior weeks from bringing our amendments to the floor on other bills, we are now being punished by putting a tourniquet on the debate on the agriculture bill today.

As ranking members, we have not only been blocked from offering the amendments, but our amendments have then been given to Members of the other party. This is outrageous. In past years, I can assure you agriculture appropriations bills moved to the floor with bipartisan support. They were not the victim of "gag" rules. They were not used to send messages to the minority that they better behave or be punished.

So now, our agriculture bill is being forced to be debated under such limited time, that key provisions will be given short shrift, not even allowing time to explain their full meaning to the Members.

For example, on the important subject of youth tobacco prevention, the time allowed for debate is 10 minutes—to be divided 5 minutes on each side. On important commodity programs on which our families' livelihood depend—sugar, peanuts, tobacco—debate will be limited to 15 minutes per side. This is ludicrous.

Further, the rule retroactively denies many Members the ability to offer their amendments—for example, Representative FURSE of Oregon on Animal Damage Control; Representative WYNN of Maryland on Civil Rights Enforcement; Representative HALL of Ohio on food assistance to Korea; and Representative MEEHAN of Massachusetts is allotted 5 minutes only to discuss the important Youth Tobacco Prevention initiative.

This is not the way to legislate.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the rule. It truly is unfair.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. STARK (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today and the balance of the week, on account of a family medical emergency.

Mr. BARTON of Texas (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), for today after 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on July 24, on account of attending a funeral.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. TIERNEY) and to include extraneous matter:)

Ms. MALONEY of New York.

Ms. ESHOO.

Mr. PRICE.

Mr. RAHALL.

Mr. MILLER of California.

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH.

Mr. REYES.

Mr. HAMILTON.

Mr. VENTO.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

Mr. LANTOS.

Mr. OBEY.

Mr. FATTAH.

Mr. STARK.

Mr. KUCINICH.

Mr. UNDERWOOD.

Mr. BERMAN.

Mr. STRICKLAND.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. WALSH) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. SHAW.

Mr. BASS.

Mr. PITTS.

Mr. FAWELL.

Mr. GILMAN.

Mr. LIVINGSTON.

Mr. HOUGHTON.

Mr. BOB SCHAFER of Colorado.

Mrs. KELLY.

Mr. LEWIS of California.

Mr. DREIER.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.) the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, July 24, 1997, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4321. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Brucellosis in Cattle; State and Area Classifications; Iowa [Docket No. 97-036-1] received July 21, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4322. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a report involving U.S. exports to Brazil, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3)(i); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

4323. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Revised Requirements for Designation of Reference and Equivalent Methods for PM 2.5 and Ambient Air Quality Surveillance for Particulate Matter [AD-FRL-5725-6] (RIN: 2060-AE66) received July 17, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4324. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's "Major" final rule—National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter [AD-FRL-5725-2] (RIN: 2060-AE66) received July 17, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4325. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's "Major" final rule—National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone [ADA-95-58; FRL-5725-3] (RIN: 2060-AE57) received July 17, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.